

Message Text

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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EUR-12 /024 W
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R 312237Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5472

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 7325

FOR A/SY/T/SP FROM RSO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: FULLY ARMORED SY CHRYSLERS

REF: STATE 253847

1. WITH REFERENCE TO REFTEL PARA 2 THE FOLLOWING ANSWERS ARE
HEREBY PROVIDED:

A. CURRENT MILEAGE ON VEHICLE IS 6,730 MILES.

B. VEHICLE IS NOW IN EXCELLENT CONDITION. ON ARRIVAL,
IT WAS IN SHOP FOR SEVERAL WEEKS FOR REPAIRS.

C. USE BY COM FIVE DAYS A WEEK FOR ALL PURPOSES AND FOR
ALL SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES ON WEEKENDS.

C(1) COM USES VEHICLE DAILY FOR ALL TRANSPORTATION.
COM USES VEHICLE ON WEEKENDS IF THERE ARE SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES.

C (2) AS INDICATED ABOVE.

C (3) NO. COM USES VEHICLE CONTINUOUSLY EXCEPT ON WEEKENDS
UNLESS HE HAS SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES AS STATED IN NUMBER C ONE
ABOVE.

C (4) ARMORED VEHICLE USED FOR TRIPS OUTSIDE OF CITY WHEN
DISTANCE IS NOT GREAT. OTHERWISE, COM USES COMMERCIAL TRANS-
PORTATION (PLANE) OR ANOTHER PARTLY ARMORED VEHICLE IN ORDER
NOT TO DRAW ATTENTION. VEHICLE WAS HIGHLY PUBLICIZED ON ARRIVAL
HERE.

D. THE ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT AND FUTURE THREATS AGAINST
COM IS AS FOLLOWS:

(1) THE CURRENT THREAT ASSESSMENT AGAINST COM IS MINIMAL
WITH THE FULLY ARMORED VEHICLE. FURTHER, AS INDICATED ABOVE,
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THE FULLY ARMORED VEHICLE RECEIVED A GREAT DEAL OF PUBLICITY

UPON ARRIVAL IN COUNTRY AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME THE SECRETARY OF STATE WAS TO VISIT SANTIAGO. RESO BELIEVES THAT THIS PUBLICITY ON THE VEHICLE ASSISTED IN DETERRING ANYONE OR GROUP IN CONTEMPLATING ANY ACTION AGAINST COM. RSO BELIEVES THAT THE REMOVAL OF THE ARMORED VEHICLE WOULD PLACE COM AT A GREAT DISADVANTAGE DUE TO THE LIMITED NUMBER OF APPROACHES FROM COM'S RESIDENCE TO CHANCERY.

(2) AS FOR FUTURE THREATS AGAINST COM IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT CHILE IS NOW IN POLITICAL ECONOMIC SITUATION THAT MAY RESULT IN TERRORIST OUTBREAKS AT ANY TIME, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF CONNECTIONS BETWEEN LOCAL EXTREMIST GROUPS AND ARGENTINE TERRORISTS. BELIEVE WE SHOULD MAINTAIN OUR PRESENT TIGHT SECURITY PRECAUTIONS.

2. AMBASSADOR CONCURS IN VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE TO WITHDRAW ARMORED VEHICLE AT THIS TIME. SITUATION IN SANTIAGO IS NOT OF COURSE CURRENTLY AS SERIOUS AS IN ATHENS, LISBON OR NICOSIA. AT SAME TIME, IT MAY DETERIORATE SHARPLY AT ANY TIME. WOULD IT NOT BE POSSIBLE TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL VEHICLE RATHER THAN TO MOVE THIS ONE?
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